Garden Talk

By

By Edith P. Gregory
Appomattox Garden Club

Today let us talk about the drying and curing of fresh flowers, foliage, seed pods, nuts, grasses, ferns, and even vegetables for use in winter arrangements.

This is a fascinating hobby for flower lovers, and the woman who has an attic full of carefully dried plant material need not worry about high cost of florist's flowers in mid-winter.

The arranging of such material is an art in itself. The creation of good designs by wise blending of forms and textures and the clever use of the muted colors present a real challenge. Since dried bouquets last almost indefinitely, they are valuable to the busy woman of today.

Annual flowers, seed pods, and foliage, of course, constitute only a small part of all materials suitable for drying. With these, branches, seed pods, and berries of evergreen and deciduous shrubs; perennial material and fern fronds are used, as well as exotic items like palm sharts and the foliage of Aspidistra, Dracaena, and other tender tropical foliage. Driftwood, bare branches, and vine stems often form the main lines or skeleton of the arrangement.

In general, material for drying should be cut after the dew is off of it, on a clear day of low humidity. As dried material shrinks to almost half its original bulk, cut twice as much as you expect to need. Blossoms are best cut as soon as they have opened. Over mature blooms do not dry satisfactorily. Strip foliage at once from flowering stems.

Material like poppy seed heads, Salvia, Snapdragon, long stemmed Liatris, Broom, Siberian Iris foliage, Aspidistra, Dracaena leaves and Pussy willow branches can be wired or bound with cord before drying, in such a way as to form the curves which will later lend themselves to arrangement.

Wash broad foliage leaves after cutting.

Below are several methods for drying materials.

1. Erect. Place stems of cut material in a Mason or other jar, flower heads erect. Leave in a dry, airy, shady room, attic, or barn until dry.

2. Upside down. Stretch stout cords the length of the room, attic or barn, and from these suspend single heavy sprays, branches, or small bunches of light material, flower heads down. If you have sufficient space, leave material hanging until needed.

3. Sand, sifted sea sand only. Fill a pan or box to a depth of three or four inches. Place flowers, heads down, on this. Cover by pouring more sand gently over flower heads and stems. Label plainly. Store for two weeks in cool, dark, dry place. Then pour sand gently from pan, brush each bloom with a camel's hair brush, and store in boxes, or erect in open jars.

4. Borax, sifted only. Use as sand. Place flower sprays horizontally or flower heads upside down on bed of borax before covering as with sand method. Remove after twenty-four to seventy-two hours. Experiment by removing one folwer after twenty-four hours. Do not leave too long, as petals may discolor.

5. Storing. Materials dried by the upside down or erect methods may remain hanging or standing where they are until needed, or they may be stored in clearly marked boxes, one species or type of material to a box. Seed pods may be stored in labeled boxes, jars or tins.

The well known authors, Rockwell and Grayson, have prepared a list of annual material for drying, and the suggested method for drying each.. The list will appear in this column next week, for those who are interested.

Vera

Vera, May 27.- "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God." Matt. 5:9.

It's a busy time on the farm. I think the tobacco crop has been planted since we had rain.

We were sorry to hear of the passing of Mr. C. S. Jenkins and Mr. Roy Baber, and extend sympathy for both families.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Carson visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Harvey on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Harvey, Harriette, Mrs. Ida T. Morris and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Carson and Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Coleman visited in the home of Mrs. Maude Abbitt on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Harvey and Harriette visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Watson on Saturday night.

Mr. Leslie Coleman's birthday was celebrated in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Abbitt Coleman on Sunday.

Mr. Bob Bryant is spending some time in the home of his brother, Mr. Reuben Bryant.

Washington Notes

AIR FREIGHT

With the delivery of new planes and equipment, the nation's major air freight carriers report increased cargo ton mileage during the first five months of this year and an expected increased sales volume to rise to new heights this year and next. While much freight is carried by air in this country, much of the overseas flying freight comes from carrying animals, textiles, apparel, machinery and parts, electronic equipment and business machines, etc., to cities all over the world.

BUSINESS PICKUP

A business outlook session of the Commerce Department's Business Advisory Council, meeting recently in Hot Springs, Virginia, saw signs that the economy is gathering strength for a gradual rise in business activity for the rest of 1957. Total production of goods and services is seen to be rising slowly to a record rate of about $435,000,000,000 annually by the final quarter of 1957. That compares with $427,000,000,000 in the January-February-March period.

FARM INCOME

Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson recently stated that agriculture is now in a position to start its "upward climb toward a more adequate share of the nation's record prosperity." He predicted that farm income this year would climb above five per cent above last year's level.

U. S. TOURISTS

Europe is looking for at least 600,000 "unofficial American ambassadors of good will" to visit it sshores this year. These tourists are expected to spend about $315,000,000 on transatlantic carriers, about $140,000,000 in retail shops in Europe, and more than $280,000,000 on hotels, catering entertainment and transportation while abroad.

FOOD COSTS

A subcommittee of the House Agriculture Committee has opened an inquiry to try to find out what makes the family grocery bill so high these days while, at the same time, the income of the farmer is decreasing. The subcommittee expects to find some of the answers in the costs of buying, processing, brokering and handling food between the farm and the dinner table.

FARM LARGER

A study of census records shows a decided drop in the number of farms since the end of World War II, but increasing mechanization of the American farm is resulting in larger farms.

SAVINGS BONDS

With the announcement of higher interest rates on Government savings bonds, there seems to be a slight trend toward greater sales. Total sales for April in the nation for the "E" and "H" bonds were $372,000,000 compared with $365,000,000 in March.

Comment On Sports

By Pete Fritchie

Washington.- It may be just possible that the American League will be the scene of a horse race for the junior circuit flag this season after all. As the reader knows, before the season began writers were almost unanimous in predicting that the New York Yankees would make a runaway affair out of that chase.

But several teams show signs of giving the world champion New Yorkers more trouble than they managed to create in 1956. There is a tough Chicago, traditionally not too tough when playing the Yankees but tough on other clubs; Cleveland is not playing dead despite the loss of Herb Score; Detroit has come to life a bit, and won three out of its first four with the Yanks.

Then Baltimore and Kansas City and Boston are not sure pateies this year. Boston hasn't been for years and now Baltimore and Kansas City are liable to beat anyone on a given day. Only Washington is the quality of the old Browns and Athletics of the American League of a few years back.

One surprising feature of this year's pennant race is the pitching Detroit has been getting from its young mound corps. A good hitting team which has not been hitting too good, the Tigers might be up there at the top had they been getting more timely hitting. The Tiger team average is good, but the runs haven't been scored when they were needed in too many of their games. Yet their pitching has been superb. If it continues from youngsters like Mass, Foytack, Bunning, Lary and Hoeft, the Tigers are going to be tougher.

Chicago is off and running and Al Lopez may not be as easy to stop as some people think.

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AN ORDINANCE

granting to grant to its successors and assigns the right to lay, construct, operate pipes, conduits and other needed appurtenances, under and through, under and along the highways, streets, alleys and public grounds of the corporate limits of Appomattox, Virginia, as the same may hereafter be extended, for the purpose of operating, and distributing manufactured or mixed gas and natural gas in the Town of Appomattox, Virginia.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF APPOMATTOX, VIRGINIA:

SECTION 1. That the right is granted unto

referred to as the "Grantee" and its successors and assigns, and subject to the rights and limitations hereinafter set forth, to lay, install and maintain pipes, conduits, and other facilities in, through, and along the public streets, highways, squares and public places in the Town of Appomattox, and to make suitable connections thereto, and to do all things necessary for the proper construction, operation and maintenance of a gas transmission and distribution system for the purpose of supplying manufactured or mixed gas and natural gas for power and light to the Town of Appomattox and the inhabitants thereof upon such terms and rates as may from time to time, be prescribed or authorized by the regulatory agency having jurisdiction thereof.

SECTION 2. The materials to be used and the manner of construction to be followed under this franchise shall be as specified in Section 8 of American Standard Code for Pressure Piping (ASA B31.1 1955) as revised from time to time.

SECTION 3. The location and laying of all pipes or mains, the placing of manholes and conduits, and the location of any other permanent equipment or appliances of any kind under this franchise shall be subject to the approval of the Mayor or such committee or city official as the Mayor may from time to time designate, and when plans showing the location or relocation of such pipes, mains, manholes, connections, meters, or other equipment or appliances have been submitted to and approved by said designated committee or official, they shall be effective and binding to the same extent as if they were set out fully and at length in this ordinance.

SECTION 4. Whenever any of the pipes, mains, manholes, or other structures of the Grantee shall prove to be in the way of public street improvements or sidewalks, actually being constructed in the Town, whether such improvements be new or in the nature of changing any location of or repairing existing streets, sidewalks, alleys, or other public grounds in the Town as may impede the porgress of such improvements, and upon the failure of the Grantee so to do, the Town Council may, after ten days' notice in writing to the Grantee itself to make such necessary changes in the works of the Grantee at the cost and expense of the Grantee. All work done under this ordinance shall be done in such a manner as not needlessly to interfere with or impede free and proper use of the streets and alleys by the public, nor obstruct the travel thereof.

SECTION 5. The work to be done under this ordinance shall be done in such a manner as not to damage any other underground construction of any other public service corporation holding a franchise from the Town or any construction performed by the Town itself, or by the State Highway Department, or unnecessarily to interfere with the making of connection by the Town or by the citizens thereof with water or sewerage pipes which may now or hereafter be laid or constructed by the Town or by any other public service corporation holding a franchise from the Town.

SECTION 6. After constructing, laying, relaying, renewing, repairing or replacing any of the mains, pipes, conduits or other appurtenances under this ordinance, the grantee shall, at its own cost, promptly replace, relay, repair and restore, in as near as possible to the original condition of the same, all streets, sidewalks, alleys, highways, squares or public grounds disturbed or damaged in the construction, repairing or replacement of the work authorized under this franchise and the grantee shall, at its own expense, promptly relay, replace and restore any subsequent or latent damage as a result of any work authorized to be done under this franchise, and upon failing to do so after seven (7) days notice in writing shall have been given by the Town Manager, or Mayor, the Town may replace, relay or restore the portions of the streets, sidewalks, or alleys that may have been so damaged or disturbed and collect the costs and expenses incurred from the Grantee.

SECTION 7. By the acceptance of this franchise the grantee hereby agrees to indemnify and save harmless the Town of Appomattox from all loss, costs, damages and expenses to which the Town may be subjected from any damage to person or property for which the Town may be held liable on account of any act or omission by the grantee, its successors or assigns, or the employees of any of them in and about the installing, repairing and maintenance of the gas works, mains and gas lines and all guards, trenches or excavations while the said gas works, mains and gas lines are being installed or at any subsequent time extended, or while repairs or alterations are being made thereto at any time in the future or on account of or by reason of any work done under this franchise or in consequence of the operation of the Grantee, and in the event that suit shall be brought against the Town of Appomattox whether independently or jointly with the grantee, on account thereof, the grantee, upon notice to it by the Town, will defend the Town in any such suit at the cost of the grantee and in the event of a final judgment being obtained against the Town of Appomattox, either independently or jointly with the grantee, the grantee will pay such judgment with all costs, and hold the Town harmless therefrom; but nothing herein contained shall be construed to render the grantee liable for the negligence of the Town of Appomattox, its agents or employees or of any other person or corporation. The grantee, its successors and assigns shall at all times carry liability insurance with an underwirter and in an amount approved by the Town Manager or Mayor.

SECTION 8. The rights and privileges herein set forth are granted and conferred upon the grantee upon the express condition and understanding on the part of the grantee, that it will render to the public in the Town of Appomattox during the term of this ordinance,, an efficient gas service as reasonable rates and that it will maintain its properties, mains and pine lines located within the Town of Appomattox in good order throughout the term of this grant, except when temporarily prevented by causes beyond its control, and the grantee by its acceptance of this ordinance expressly agrees that the State Corporation Commission shall have jurisdiction to the full extent, and in the manner now or hereafter during the life of this ordinance, provided by law for the regulation of a public utility.

SECTION 9. The Grantee, its successors and assigns, shall lay its service pipes from its mains to the curb line and/or the consumer's outer property line at its own expense, and shall furnish and install necessary curb boxes and meters without expense to the consumer; from the curb line and/or the consumer's outer property line and the consumer shall have the right to select a licensed master plumber to lay and install his fixtures, at the consumer's risk and expense, subject to the Grantee's right of inspection.

SECTION 10. The Grantee shall, subject to the orders of the regulatory bodies having jurisdiction, make service connections for supplying gas for heat, power, fuel and other practical uses and purposes at any point within the corporate limits of the Town upon the proper application therefor in accordance with the standard terms and conditions of the company in effect at the time such application is made.

SECTION 11. The franchise, rights and privileges granted by this ordinance shall extend for a period of thirty (30) years from and after final passage of this ordinance unless the same be sooner voluntarily surrendered by the grantee with the consent of the Council of the Town of Appomattox or unless the same be sooner forfeited as provided by law or unless the Grantee has not commenced service within 2 years from the date of acceptance of this franchise by the Grantee.

SECTION 12. It is expressly understood that nothing to be granted in the franchise under this ordinance shall be construed as granting or attempting to grant to the grantee, its successors or assigns, the exclusive right to use the public streets and highways of the Town of Appomattox.

SECTION 13. That upon the approval of this ordinance by the Mayor of the Town of Appomattox, it shall be the duty of the Mayor to cause to be advertised once a week for four successive weeks, in some newspaper of general circulation in the Town of Appomattox, Virginia, the draft of the ordinance contained in the foregoing sections, and in addition he shall, by such advertisement, invite bids for the privilege and rights proposed to be granted by the said ordinance, which bids shall be in writing and shall be delivered to the presiding officer of the Council of the Town of Appomattox, in open session at the day and hour of the next regular meeting of the said body to be held next after such advertisement is completed, which bids shall then be presented to the Council by the said presiding officer to be dealt with and acted upon in the manner prescribed by law for franchise grants. Said advertisement shall expressly reserve the right to reject any and all bids.

This Ordinance shall be in force from its passage.

I, C. J. Hunter, Clerk of the Council of the Town of Appomattox and as such the keeper of its official records, do hereby certify that the foregoing document is a true and correct copy of an Ordinance adopted by the Council of the Town of Appomattox, Virginia, at its regular meeting on the 19 day of March, 1957.

Given under my hand this 20th day of March, 1957.

C. J. Hunter, Clerk of the Council of the Town of Appomattox, Virginia.

Approved this 20 day of March, 1957.

Richard D. Robinson,
Mayor of the Town of Appomattox, Virginia.
(5-9-4tc)

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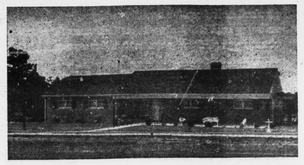

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